

THE HISTORIE

of Frier R v s n : how he came to a
house of Religion to seeke service, and being
entertained by the Priour, was first made
vnder Cooke.

Being full of pleasant mirth and delight
for young people.



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¶ A pleasant History, how a Deuill
(named Rush) came to a Religious
house, to seeke a seruice.



Here was sometimes beyond the sea
edified and founded a certaine house
and Cloister of Religious men, which
house was founded at a great charge
like, for to maintaine the seruice of al-
mighty God, and daily to pray for their
benefactors and founders, and for the
saluation of their owne soules: which
place by reason of their founders and well disposed people
(which gave vnto it largely of their goods and possessions) in-
creased in riches, and every man had gold and silver at their
will, and also of meate and drinke they had great plenty: in so
much that they were so well at ease and had so much, that they
knew not what to doe they were so full of wantonnesse, where-
by the seruice of almighty God was not well maintained
among them: for oftentimes they said neither Mattins nor
Censong: and through their great negligence they forgot
cleane the charge that they were bound to when they entered
into their Religion, and they liued more like beasts without
reason, then like men of god and holy conuersation: for they
haunted harlots and liued viciously, and the goods that was
given them by god and well disposed people, they spent in vn-
thriftinesse and rybauldry. And when the great Prince of
Deuils which are the Patronnes of all vices vnderstand of the
great misrule and vile liuing of these Religious men: consul-
ted to keepe them still in that state, and worse if it might be.
And these be the names of the Deuils.

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Belphegor who was Prince of Gluttony, Asmodeus Prince of Lechery, And Belzebub Prince of Envy, with many other Devils assembled together, which reioyced for the misorder of these Religious men. And as they were all assembled together with one accord: they chose a Devil to goe and dwell among these Religious men, for to maintaine them the longer in their vnglacions living, which Devil was put in rayment like an earthly creature, and went to a Religious house, and there he stood at the gate a certaine space all alone with an heauie countenance. Then within a while after the Prior came vnto the gate and spake vnto the young man standing there all alone. Anon he said vnto him, what dost thou here, and what wouldest thou haue. The young man with great reuerence answered and said: Sir, I am a poore young man, and am out of seruaice, and faine would haue a Maister. And Sir if it please you to haue me, I shall doe you diligent seruice, and shall doe so well that you and all your brethren and couent shall be glad of me, for I shall keepe so well your secrets, that I trust to obtaine at all times your good lone and fauour, and all theirs also.

And when the Prior had heard his words, he was moued with pittie, and said: Goe into the Kitchen to the Cooke, and shew him that I haue sent thee thither, and bid him shew thee what thou shalt doe: for thou shalt be with him a certaine season, till that some other better thing fall. Then the young man made his reuerence to the Prior, and thanked him, and so with he went to the Kitchen, where hee found the Maister Cooke. Anon he made reuerence vnto him, and said: Sir, my Maister the Prior hath sent me hither vnto you, and he commaundeth you to shew me what I shall doe, for I must be here and helpe you. The Maister Cooke answered and said, you be welcome. And anon hee set him to such businesse as he had to doe. And thus the Devil became vnder-Cooke in the place that he was assigned vnto, by the Prince of Devils. And then hee said (laughing to himselfe) as followeth.

Thes

of Frier Rush.

These being the words of the Devil.



I Am right glad that my purpose
is come so well to passe, so; now
all mine intent is fulfilled, and I
doubt not but all shall be ours: for
I shall make such debate and strife
among the Friers, that they shall
never be at concord and peace. And
I shall make them good sturs
where with the one shall beate well
the other: and often times they shall
lee together by the eares, in so much
that there was neuer sen nor heard
tell of such a rumour and discord in
no Cloyster in the world. And I
shall be my selfe so, that I shall be
in great love and favour among
them.

Then within foure or five dayes after, it fortuned that the
Pziour came into the Kitchin, and there he found the young
man, to whom he said, where wast thou boyme, and what is
thy name? The young man answered and said, Sir, I was
boyme very farre hence, and Rush is my name. When said the
Pziour unto him, Rush, canst thou couple hounds together?
Yea Sir (said Rush) that I can doe right well, and moze then
that, for I can couple men and women together, which is a
moze matter, and also Sir (if needs be) I can conuay a faire
woman into your chamber, and conuay her home againe in
the morning so secretly, that no man shall see it. And also
I shall keepe your counsaile so secretly, that it shall neuer be
knowne. And when the Pziour heard Rush speake so, he was
right glad of him, and said: Rush, if thou canst doe as thou
hast said: I shall reward thee well for thy labour, and thou
shalt be my most welbeloued seruant: wherefore make an end.

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of thy businesse, for soone, thou shalt goe a little way on a message for me, and so he departed and went to supper. And when every man had supped, and Rush had done all his businesse in the kitchen, hee came vnto his maister the Pziour, and said, Sir, what is your will with me? the Pziour answered and said: here a little beside dwelleth a faire Gentlewoman, the which I loue very well, but I dare not discover my minde vnto her my selfe: and if thou canst finde the meanes to bring her secretly vnto me, I shall reward thee right well for thy labour and paine. And when Rush had heard the words of his Maister, and knew all his minde, he answered and said: Sir, be of good chere, and let mee alone with that matter: for I shall goe vnto the Gentlewomans house, and I shall say your message so well, that this night she shall come to you: and so departed Rush from his Maister, and went straight vnto this Gentlewomans house. And when he was thither come, hee found the Gentlewoman sitting all alone. And when Rush was espied of her, he made vnto her great courtesie, and with many reuerences these words he said.

How a Deuill named *Rush* came vnto a Gentlewomans house,
and how he brought her priuily vnto his
Maisters chamber.

Rest you merry faire Pistrisse, the most fairest creature in the world. My Maister greeteth you by me, desiring you to come and speake with him. Then said the Gentlewoman to Rush, who is your Maister, and what is his will with me? faire Pistrisse, said Rush, I will shew you, my Maister is the Pziour in a house of Religion here beside, and he loneth you so well except that you come vnto him this night, I know he will be dead for sorrow.

Here followeth the answer of the Gentlewoman.

And when the Gentlewoman had heard the words of Rush, shee answered and said, Faire Sir, it were great
mittie

of Frier Rush.

pittie that the Gentleman should die for my sake, and rather then he should so doe for me, I will come to him, and shew him all the courtesie that I can. Rush was very glad of those comfortable words, and thought that his enterpryse was well brought to passe, and he said vnto her: Faire Mistresse, may it please you to take the labour and goe with me, and I shall



bryng you to my Master, and as I suppose, hee will make you good cheare, and Gold and Siluer you shall lacke none, for hee hath great plenty thereof. Then saide the Gentlewoman, Sir, I pray you let vs depart hence: for as I suppose the Gentleman longeth long for vs. So sayth they went both together, till they came to the Priours Chamber. And when the Priour sawe that she

was come: he was the gladdest man in the world, and thanked Rush much for his labour and painne: And so the Priour receined her into his chamber, and there he made her good chere, and they had good meate and wine great plenty. And when they had well refreshed themselves, Rush departed and went to the Kitchin, and left the Priour and the Gentlewoman alone, and there she saved the Priours life. And when Rush was in the Kitchin, hee said vnto himselfe: I am right glad that I haue brought this matter so well to passe: and I doubt not but they will agree well enough together, for they be both of one accord. And when the other Friere perceined that

Rush

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Rush was such a pynie fellow, and so well could keepe counsaile: they desired him to helpe them also, and so he did: for he brought to every man, the woman that they most desired, whereof they had great meruaile. But they were so blinded with ignorance, that they neuer perceived that he was a very Demill, but every man had him in loue and fauour.

How Friar Rush threw the maister Cooke into a kettell
of water seething vpon the fire,
wherein he died.

It befell vpon a day that Rush went forth to sport him, and it was very late ere he came home againe, and the maister Cooke was very angry with him that hee was so long absent. And as soone as Rush was entred into the Kitchin: the Cooke began to chide, and said vnto him. thou boyson haue where



hast thou bene so long: and with a great staffe hee laid vpon Rush and beat him soze. And when Rush saw that the Cooke was angry, and so farre out of reason, and that he had beaten him soze: anon he began to waie very angry with the maister Cooke, and said vnto him: thou boyson villaine, why hast thou beaten me thus: I will be reuenged on thee: and suddainly he caught

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caught him in his armes, and threwe him into a great kettell which was full of water seething vpon the fire, and said, lye thou there in the Diuels name: for now thou shalt neither fight nor chide no moze with me: and so Rush slew the maister Cooke. Then when he had so done, he departed out of the Kitchin, and went to the next Towne to fetch the faire woman againe for his Paister: and in his absence certaine of the Friers came into the Kitchin to speake with Rush, but they found nobody stirring therein, and some of them went to stand by the fires side, to tarie till Rush came in: for they thought he would not tarie long. And as they stood talking together by the fires side, they spied a man in the kettell seething vpon the fire. And anon they perceiued that it was the maister Cooke, whereof they were greatly abashed. And with that (crying out) they went vnto the Prior and shewed him that the maister Cooke had drowned himselfe in a kettell seething vpon the fire in the Kitchin: for which tydings the Prior was right soerie. And in the meane season Rush came home, and had conueyed the woman into his Paisters chamber. And anon the Friers shewed Rush of the great misfortune that was fallen on the Paister Cooke in the Kitchin, and he made as he had bene soerie therfore, and had knowne nothing thereof, and he was in great lone and fauour with the Prior and all the Friers, that they mistrusted him nothing for that dede, and so there was no moze mention of the Paister Cooke. Then the Prior commanded that Rush should be made Cooke, and all the Couent was right glad of that, and so he was himselfe also, for he thought his enterprises came well to passe after his minde, and as he would haue it. Thus Rush became Paister Cooke in the Kitchin, and dressed their meate meruailous well: for in the Lent, and in the Aduent, both Fridaies and also other dayes, he put Bacon into their pottage pot, the which made the pottage to sauer well, and he dressed their meate so deliciously, that the Prior and all the Friers had great meruaile that he did it so well: in so much

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that they said he did much better then their other Maister Cooke did, & that he was a more cunninger man in his occupation, and could doe much better in his office. Thus Rush continued in that office the space of seauen yeares, and did right well, and every man had him in love and favour. When it fortuned vpon a day the Prior and his brethren were assembled together in a generall counsaile, and as they stood talking together, the Prior remembred Rush, and anon he said vnto his brethren: Friends we haue here Rush which is our maister Cooke in our Kitchen, and he is an olde seruant, and much diligent and true service he hath done to vs, and he hath continued among vs longer then any seruant that euer we had: wherefore me thinke it reason, that hee were promoted into some other office, and made a brother among vs. Then all the whole couent with one voice said they were content it should so be. So the Prior sent for Rush, and when he was come before him and all his brethren, the Prior said, Rush it is so, thou hast bene here a long season and we haue found thee hitherto a true and diligent seruant, wherefore we will that thou be promoted, and take vpon thee an habite as we haue, and to become a brother among vs. Rush answered and said: my Maisters I thanke you all, and then the Prior gaue Rush an habite, and put it on his backe, and so Rush became a brother in the place, neuerthelesse he kept his office still.

How Frier Rush made Truncheons for the Friers
to fight withall.

When Rush had on the habite of a frier, and was a brother in the place, he had more vacation dayes then he had before. And as a King or a great Prince prepareth ordinances against their warres, in likewise did Frier Rush: for when all his businesse was done in the Kitchen, and that he had leysure, he went and sate in the Port of the utter gate, and there he was making of good bigge Truncheons of Oke. And
he

of Friar Rush.

he made them with Bilts ouer the hand for slipping, of the which the other Friars had great meruaile, & demanded of him wherfore he made those Tranchecons. Rush answered and said: Faire Sirs, I make them for this intent: that if there come any thieues hither for to rob vs, and to spoile our place, yet shall we haue weapons to defend vs withall. And therefore I make them. And moreover, when any nade shall be, come to mee and euerie man shall haue one, and they shall be ready at your commandement, and then the Friars thanked him and so departed. Then it fortunied vpon a day, that the Prior and Subprior fell at discord, and were greatly angry, the one with the other, and would haue fought together, but onely for shame: neuertheless, the anger abode still in their hearts, and all was for an harlot within a while after, the noise spread abroad among the Friars, that the Prior and the Subprior were fallen at discord, for the which they were angry in their mindes. And they that loued the Prior, took his part, and they that loued the Subprior, took his part, and so they murmured among themselves. Then they appointed in their mindes to reuenge their quarrels at one



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time or other, and so to make a more sure way in fulfilling their malicious mindes and angry hearts, every man after other went privately to Frier Rush to lend them staves, in so much that there was not a Frier in the place but he had one, and they never went without their staves under their habite, and the one knew not that the other had any, they kept them so secretly. And when Frier Rush had delivered all his staves, he was right glad in his heart, for he knew right well there should be a great fray among them, either one time or other. So it fortuned afterward, as it is a common custome among Religious people at an high feast, to keepe solemne service, and every man to be at Mattens at midnight, and so upon a good night, all the whole Couent assembled together in the Quier, and were ready to begin Mattens, they taried for nothing but for the comming of the Prior. Then anon the Prior came into the Quier, and sat him downe in his place, and as he looked about him, he espied that the Subprior was there present, and with that his heart began to grudge of the olde anger that was fallen betweene them two, and he thought in his minde that he could never be revenged in a better time, and sodainly he rose out of his place, and went to the Subprior, and with his fist he gaue him a good buffet, and the Subprior which was moued with the stroke, started vnto the Prior and gaue him another buffet, and with that they went freshly together by the eares, and when the other Friars saw that, every man rose out of their places, and drew out their Truncheons, and together they went: who had bene there should haue seene good buffets giuen on both parties. And when Frier Rush saw that they were fighting together, anon he blew out all the Candles and Lamps that were burning in the Church, and left no manner of light therein whereby the one might see the other: and when he had so done, he took his Truncheon in his hand, and went into the Quier among the thickest of the Friars the which were fighting freshly without light, and there he laid so lustily about, that many of them he felled

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felled to the ground, and left them lying there for dead, and when he had so done, he stole his way from them, and as he went, he found standing in the portall of the Quier, a great olde Deske, and anon hee tooke the Deske betwene both his hands, and threwe it ouer the portall into the Quier among all the Friers, and hurt many soze, in so much that some had an arme broken, and some a legge, and other some had their noses cleane pared from their faces, that the blood ranne in their mouthes, and as for broken heads to the hard scalpe were no dainty, for euery man had one, there scaped none free away, who had bene there, should haue had a godly pastime to see the Friers creepe about the Quier, and in steede of (Domine labia) they cried out alas and well away. Then when the fray was done, and all the noyse ceased, Rush came in among them with a Candell light in his hand, and made as he had knowne nothing thereof, and said to them: Fie for shame Sirs, how fortun'd this discord to fall among your selues? I see well now you regard not your honour, nor the good name of your place. All the people shall say ye be not honest, nor good religious men, the which words I would be loath to heare, and I may not suffer our place so to fall in an euill name: wherefore god Masters, I require you to set your hearts at rest, and put the matter into my hands, and I shall doe so much that all shall be well, and you shall be good friends againe, and no words shall be spoken thereof, then euery man complained to him of their great hurt, and he made semblance as he had bene soze therfore and then they that could goe, went by to their Beds, and they that could not goe, did creepe by as well as they could, and laid them downe in their beds, and there they lay till they were whole againe, and in the space of thre weekes and more, God was euill serued, for in all that space they sung neither Matins nor Euen-song, nor neuer entred into the Church for it was suspended, and for shame they durst neuer let it be knowne. And when they were all whole, and euery man vpon his feete againe, and might goe about the house, they brought
again

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again their Slaues to Friar Rush, and thanked him much, and then Friar Rush said vnto them: Sirs when ye haue made of them againe, ye shall finde them here ready at your commandment, for which they gaue him thanks, and departed. When Friar Rush saw that they were gone, and that he had all his Slaues againe, he laughed vnto himselfe and said: I am right ioyfull that mine enterprises be come so well to passe, for I haue done many mischieuous deeds since I came first, and yet I will doe more before I depart hence, for I shall cause them to be damned, and I shall bying their bodies and soules into the burning fire of hell, there to remaine woold without end, and of me shall be spoken a thousand yeres hereafter.

How Friar Rush grymed the Waggon with Tarre, and what cheare he made in the Country.

Another time it fortuned that the Priour had a iourney to ride into the Country about a little businesse that hee had there to doe, and anon he called Rush his seruant vnto him and said, ~~Rush~~ goe thy way into the Court, and take with thee a dish full of greace, and greace well the wheeles and Axeltres of the Waggon, and make all things ready against to morrow in the morning, for I must ride forth to morrow betimes, then Rush departed from his Maister, and went about his businesse, and in stead of greace, hee took a great vessell full of Tarre, and anointed the Waggon all ouer with it, both within and without, and especially in the place where the Priour should sit: and when he had done, he returned to his Maisters chamber, then the Priour demanded of Rush, if he had done as he commanded him: yea Sir said Rush, ye may ride when please you, and so they went to their beds. When on the morrow after, the Priour and Rush his seruant with his other company, rose vp very early in the morning for to accomplish their iourney, and forth they went vnto their Waggon. and when the Priour was entred therein, hee perceined himselfe

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himselfe all to berayed and smeared, and all his clothes were
fild therewith: and then he said to Rush, thou lewd fellow,



what hast thou done to this Waggon that I am thus arayed
therein? Rush answered and said: Sir, I have done nothing
but as you commanded me. That is not so said the Pziour,
for I commanded thee to take greace and grease but the
whales and the Areltras, and thou hast taken Carre and an-
notnted it all ouer, both within and wi'out. Why hast thou
done so? Sir said Rush, I vnderstode you had me doe so. And
when the Pziour sawe there was no other remedie, hee com-
manded his seruants to make ready another Waggon, and
in the meane season, the Pziour went into his Chamber, and
put on another habite, and came againe and mounted into
the Waggon and went their way, and so long they rade, that
they came to their iournyes end. And when they were
alighted at their lodging, the Pziour called for his supper, and
anon euery thing was made ready, and the good man of the
house and the Pziour sate downe to supper together, and made
good chere and then the Pziour called for wine of the best, and
anon he had his commandement. And when the good man of the
house and the Pziour had supped, Rush and his fellows sate
downe

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downe to the reuerſions that their Maſters had left, but the had no wine: wherefoze Ruſh was very ſad, and euer he mused by what policie he might get ſome wine. And anon he called the wiſe of the houſe and ſaid: Miſtriſſe, I pray you fill pottle of wine for me and my fellowes, and ſo ſhe did: and when that was gone, they called for another: and then they called for the third, and ſo ended their ſupper. Then on the morrow when the Maſter had done all his buſineſſe, and was ready to returne home againe: he called for a reckoning. And anon, the good wiſe came in and gaue him a reckoning of all things, both hoſe meate and mans meate; and at laſt, ſhe reckoned theſe pottels of wine that Ruſh and his fellowes had. And when the Maſter heard that his ſervants had drunke ſo much wine: Anon he began to waxe very angry, and aſked her, who commanded her to fill in ſo much wine: the wiſe answered and ſaid: Sir, Ruſh your ſervant commanded me to fill it in, and he ſaid, that you ſhould pay therefoze. Then anon the Maſter called for Ruſh, and ſaid vnto him: Thou leſt I ſhould knowe, why haſt thou drunke ſo much wine? Might not leſſe then pottels ſerue thee and thy fellowes? Sir, ſaid Ruſh, we haue not drunke ſo much, for your hoſes hath had two of the pottels. My hoſes, ſaid the Maſter: what ſhould they doe with wine? Yes Sir, ſaid Ruſh, your hoſes laboured ſore than we did, and were very weary, and they had nothing but Hay and Dates: wherefoze, me thought it needfull to give them ſome good drinke to their courſe meate to comfort their hearts withall, and to cauſe them to be the luſtier, and ſo haue the better courage to bring you homeward. And when the Maſter had heard that anſwere of Ruſh, and ſaw there was no remedy but patience: he paid for the wine, and all things that he had taken there, and ſo rode home in his Waggon, and Friar Ruſh neuer went ſouth againe with his Maſter.

How

of Frier Rush.

How the Priour made Frier *Rush* Sexton among the Friers, and how he charged him to giue him knowledge how many Friers were absent from Mattins at midnight, and what they were.

When the Priour was come home, he made Frier *Rush* Sexton of the church, and his office was to ring the bell and to light the candles, and to cal the Friers to Mattins at mid-night, and also the Priour commaunded *Rush* charged him, that he should take good hede that there were none of the Friers absent from Mattins, and if there were to giue him knowledge thereof, then saide *Rush* to his master: Sir all your commaundement shalbe fulfilled, and so they departed. And



within

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Within thre or foure nights after, Rush espied certaine of the Friers that were absent, and he marked them well, and on the morrow after he presented them to the Prior, and anon the Prior caused them to come before him, and gave them a check, for their being absent; in a little time, Rush had presented them all which caused the Prior to be greatly offended with them: when they perceiued that Rush had made such complaints against them, they had him in much disdaine, but they could not amend it: for he had them in such great feare, that neuer after they durst be absent, but well was he that might be first in the Quier. When Rush perceiued the Fryers had him in so great feare, he deuised to doe some mischicuous thing among them; and vpon a night, a little before he should ring to Matins, he went and brake downe the staires of the Doxter, and when he had so done, hee went and rung to Matins, and lighted the Lamps & Candles in the Church, and went into the Doxter, and called by the Fryers, and so came and sate at the staires soe as he was wont to doe; he had sitten there but a while, but anon there came one, who thought no hurt but to goe soberly into the Quier as he was wont to doe, and when he came to the staires downe he fell, and had a meruallous great fall: then said Rush, thou art one. Presently there came another, and likewise downe he fell and had a soze fall, thou art tivo said Rush. Anon came the third Frier, which had a mightie great bellie, and was a grosse man, and he made great hast, for he feared that he should hane been last, & when he came to the staires, downe he fell on his fellows necks, and he was so great and so heauie, that almost he had mischicued his fellows that lay vnder him: thou makest thre said Rush. And with that there came seauen or eight together, and downe they fell all at once. Wofully murthered for shame, said Rush, ye come too many at once, ye were not wont to be so hasty, but now I perceiue well ye would deceiue me, and one would excuse the other, and therefore ye come so thicke to blind me in my tale: How should I now give account to the Prior of them that be absent: Surely I cannot tell, but now

of Frier Rush.

Now I see well, ye be too subtil for me, I would some other man had mine office, and made as though he had bene verie angrie with them. Then the Fryers, such as could goe, though it were to their paines, rose vp againe, and limping and halting they went into the Quier, and they that fell first and lay vnder, were soze hurt and could not goe, and specially the Frier with the great belly: yet neuerthelesse, they crept into the Quier, as well as they could. And when they were all assembled together in the Quier, each of them complained to other of their great hurts, and so they began Mattins: who had bene there, should haue heard a heauie song and a sad, so they were not merrie in their hearts, their paines were so great. When Mattins was done, they that could goe, went vp againe into their lodgings, and they that could not goe, lay still in the Quier all night: On the morrow, word was brought to the Prior of the great misfortune that was fallen among the Fryers at midnight: for the which misfortune the Prior was greatly displeased and angry in his minde, & thought verily it was Rushes deede, for hee had done diuers euill turnes before. When the Prior sent for Rush to come speake with him, and when he was come, Prior said vnto Rush, how fell this misfortune to night among the Fryers, that they be so soze hurt? Sir said Rush, I shall shew you, it is not vnknowne vnto you, that when you put me first into this office, ye commaunded me to geue you knowledge when any of my brethren were absent from Mattins, and so haue I done diuers times, whereby many of them haue bene hent and chidden by you, and for that cause, they owe me euill will, and saine would haue me out of this office, if they wist how. And so to accomplish their desire, and to cause you to be displeased with me: I shall shew you what they haue done this night. Sir it is so, that when the time was come, I rung to Mattins and lighted candles, and made all things ready, and when I had so done I went into the Doyter to euery mans Bell and called them up, then I went and stode at the staire foot, for to tell them as they came

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came downe, as I was accustomed to doe, and to knowe who came to Mattins, and who did not, and for spite that I should not reckon them, they came all on a cluster, and for hast the one thrust the other downe the staires, and he that had the greatest belly, had the hardest fall; now if they hurt themselves, what might I doe with all? And when the Prior had heard the words of Rush, he wist not what to say, but for to voyde all tribulations and misfortunes that might fall in time to come, he put Rush out of his office, and set him in the Kitchin againe, and when he was there all alone, he laughed to himselfe and said: this caterpise is well brought to passe, and I haue made a good scuse thereof to the Prior, yet will I doe more ere I depart out of this place.

How Rush went forth a sporting, and was late forth, and how in his way comming home, he found a Cowe, which Cowe he deuided into two parts, the one halfe hee tooke on his necke and caried it with him, and the other halfe he left still: and how soone he had made it ready for the Friers suppers.

It befell vpon a time that Rush when all his businesse was done in the Kitchin, he would goe forth into the Countrey to sport, him and to passe the time with good company: as hee walked on his way, his chaunce was to come into a billage, which was two or thre mile from the place where hee did dwell, and when hee was entred into the billage, hee looked round about him in euery corner to finde out some company to make merrie withall: and at the last, espied an Alehouse, and in he entred, and there hee found good fellowes playng at Cardes, and drinke, and mace cheare: then Rush made obeysance to them, and satte downe among them, and dranke with the players, and afterward he fell to play, and was as long in the company: and so long he played and dranke, that hee had forgotten what he had to do away, and the night approached.

of Frier Rush.

proached. Anon Rush looked vp and perceiued that it was almost night, remembred himselfe that there was nothing ready at home for the Priors supper and Couent, and it was almost supper time, wherefore he thought it was time to depart thence, so he payed for his drinke and toke his leaue, and homeward he went, and in his way he found a fat Cowe grazing in



the field, and sodainly he denided her into two parts, and the one halfe he left lying there still, and the other halfe he toke on his necke and carried it home, and quickly hee made it ready; some he put in the pot, and some vpon the spit, and he made a great fire and set on the pot, and layd to the spit: and he made mervailous good pottage, and roasted the meate very well, and he made such spede, that euery thing was ready by the houre accustomed to goe to supper, whereof the Prior and all the Friers had great mervaille, that he had made euery thing ready so soone, and was so well done: for they knew that it was late ere he came home: for some of the Friers had bene in the kitchen a little before, and saw neither Cowe nor fire, nor any thing prepared toward supper: wherefore they gave great praise to Rush, and said he was very quicke in his office.

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How a Farmer of the Priors sought his Cowe, and how he was
desolated by the way homeward, and was faine to lye in
a hollow Tree: and of the vision
that he had.

There was a poore Husbandman, dwelling there beside,
which was a Farmer of the Priors: the which poore man
had a Cowe abroad in the fields, that was accustomed every
night to come home at a certaine houre, and neuer failed. And
at the last a mischaunce fell vnto her, for Frier Rush had slaine
her as she stode in the field, and so shee failed of her comming
home at her houre as shee was wont to doe. And when the
poore man sawe that his Cowe came not home: he thought in
his minde it was not well with her, so forth he went in an ene-



ning for to seeke his Cowe,
and so long hee trauailed
about in the fields, that at
the last hee found the one
halfe of his Cowe lying
there: but the other halfe
was cleane gone, and shee
was so cleanly deuised in
two parts, that hee imagi-
ned in his minde, that it
was not possible to be done
by mans hands, for if any
wilde beastes had done it,
they would haue spoyled
the flesh: so hee returned
homeward againe, and ere
he came at the halfe way,
the night was so darke that
he could not see which way
he went, and so hee went
out.

of Frier Rush.

out of his way, and house could he finde none: and at the last he came to an hollow Tree wherein he sate him downe, thinking there to take his rest all night, and he had not sitten there but a while: but anon there assembled a company of Devils, and among them they had a great principall Master whose name was Lucifer, and hee was the first that spake: and the first that was called, was a Devill named Belzabub, and with a loud voyce, he said vnto him: Belzabub what hast thou done for vs? Belzabub answered and said: Sir I haue caused debate and strife to fall betwene brother and brother, insomuch the one hath slaine the other: that is well done said the maister Devill, thou shalt be well rewarded for thy labour. Then forth he called another Devill, named Incubus, and demanded of him what he had done? Sir said Incubus, I haue caused great debate and strife, to fall betwene two Lords, through the which they haue had great warres, and many men haue bene slaine: then said the master Devill, thou art a true servant to vs, thou shalt be well rewarded for thy great labour and paine. Then said the great maister vnto another Devill, named Norpell, what hast thou done for vs? Sir said Norpell, I haue bene among players at the Dice and Cardes, and I haue caused them to sweare many great oathes, and the one to slea the other: and also I haue caused debate and strife to fall betwene man and wife, and caused the wife to cut her husbands throat: that was well done said the Master, thou shalt be well rewarded for thy labour. Then forth came another Devill named Downefnest, and said: Sir I haue caused two olde women to fight so sore together, and to beat each other about the head, that their eyes flew out: that was well done said the master Devill, with much thanke thou shalt be well rewarded for thy labour. Then forth stepped Frier Rush freshly, and with a good courage, and said: Sir, I am in a Religious place and I gouerne the Prior and his Conent as I will my selfe, and they haue me in great loue and fauour: for I doe them many great pleasures, and I haue brought them
saite

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faire wenches euery man one when they lust, and diuers times
I haue caused debate and strife to fall among them, and I haue
made them slaues and caused them to fight stilly together,
and to breake each others head, and their armes and legges,
and yet will I doe moze among them ere I depart out of the
place, for I shall make so great debate and strife among them,
that the one shall slea the other, then they shall come and dwell
with vs in Hell, and burne in perpetuall fire without end.
Then said the maister Deuill to Rush: if thou haue done as
thou hast said, thou hast done well thy part, and I pray thee
be diligent thy selfe about thy businesse, and stirre them to sin,
and specially to these three, that is to say, wrath, Gluttony, and
Lechery, and briefly to make an end of thy enterpryse, and
slip it not: and when thou hast done, come home, and thou shalt
be highly exalted and well rewarded for thy great labour and
paine. When Rush had tolde his tale: the great maister De-
uill commanded euery Deuill to goe his way and doe the best
he could, and thus they departed: some went one way and
some another: and thus they were scattered abroad in the
world, to finish and make an end of their enterprises that they
had taken in hand. And when the poore husbandman which
sate in the Tree, sawe that all the Devils were departed and
gone: he reioyced in his heart and was right glad thereof, for
as long as they were there, hee was euer in great feare and
dread, and hee was afraid that they should haue sene him
there, and euer he prayed vnto almighty God to be his guard,
and saue him from that soule and euill sanoured company of
Devils, and to send him the light of the day that he were gone
out of that place, for hee was weary that hee abode there so
long, and oftentimes he looked vp, to see if hee could perceiue
any light of the day whereby he might see to depart thence, for
till then he durst not once stirre out of that place, for he feared
that they had bene there still. When within a while after,
the day began to appeare, and when hee perceiued that: anon
he started vp and looked round about him abroade in the fields,
and

of Frier Rush.

and when he perceiued that there was no body stirring he thanked almighty God, that he was so preserved out of that great leopardy, and so departed.

How the Farmer which lay in the Tree, came vnto the Priour on the morowe after, and tolde him the wordes that hee had heard, and the words of Frier *Rush*, and that hee was a very Deuill.

AS soone as the day began to appeare: the poore Farmer arose out of the Tree, and tooke his way streight to the Priour, and he would neuer rest till he had spoken with him; and when he was come to his speech, anon he saide: Sir, this night hath fortuned to me a great aduenture: how so saide the Priour e sir, yesternight late in the evening, I walked sooth in the feldes to seeke a Cowe which I haue missed this foure or fise dayes, and so long I wandered abroad, till at the last I founde the one halfe of my Cowe, but the other halfe was gone; and as I would haue returned home againe, I was benighted, so soze that I lost my waye: then I wist not whether to goe, but spying a hollowe Tree, I safe me doone, thinking there to take my rest till the day appered againe: and I had not sitten there but a while, but instantly there was assembled a great company of Deuills which made a maruallous great noise, whereof I was soze astrayd. They had among them a great master named Lucifer, who called all the rest to make a reckoning of all their seruise they had done, since they departed out of Hell: there I heard many maruellous tales. At the last, sozth came Frier Rush, then saide the great master Lucifer vnto him, Rush, what hast thou done since thou departed out of Hell: and he answered, that he had ruled you, and all your Content, and caused you, to chide and fight, and were neuer in bittie and peace among your selues: and he said he had caused you to liue viciously, and yet he saide

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he would doe more ere he departed out of this place, for he will cause you to kill each other, and then you should be damned in Hell, both bodie and soule. And so everie Deuill departed and went about their busines. Wherefore take heed, for he is a verie Deuill. And when the Pziour had heard the wordes of the Farmer, he thanked him for his laboz and so they departed, the Farmer went home to his house, but the Pziour was maruailously abashed at the wordes of the Farmer, and went into his chamber and was much grieved in his harte that he had so leudly misordered himselfe against his Lord God, and with great contrition he knæled downe vpon his knees, and asked almighty God mercie, and forgiveness for the great and græuous offences that he had committed and done against him, and that he had so vildly misused the order of his Religion. And when he had thus done, he departed out of his chamber and went into the Cloister, and caused all his brethren to come together, and when they were all assembled, the Pziour told them everie worde as the husbandman had told him, and that Rush was a verie Deuill, and no earthly creature; at the which they were sore astonished, and were right sorry in their hartes, that they had followed him so much in his minde, and done after his counsaile, and were heauy in their heartes for their great and abhominable finnes that they had committed and done, & with great contrition they knæled downe vpon their knees, and desired almighty God, for grace and pardon. Then the Pziour caused every man to fall to contemplation and prayer. Then forth they went and did the Pziours commandement, and briefly made them ready, and went to prayer all at once. And when they were come to the middest of their service, the Pziour departed out of the Church and went to the Ritchen, wherein he found Rush who was there verie busy: then the pziour commanded him to stand still, and by vertue of almightie God and of all the companie of Heauen, he conuered Rush into the likenes of a Horse, and commanded him to goe and stand at the gate in the same place that he stood

of Frier Rush.

And in when he came thither first, and to stand there till service was done: so forth went Rush in the likenes of a Horse, and stood at the gate as the Priour had commaunded him.



And when service was done, the Priour and his brethren went to the gate to see what case Rush was in: and when they were come thither they found him standing in the likenes of a Horse. When they demanded him to what intent he came into their place, and why he taried there so long: Thus said Rush: I came hither to cause you to do all mischief as is aforesaid, and yet I would have done more ere I had gone hence: for I would have caused you to slaye other, and to be damned both bodie and soules. And when they had heard the wordes of Rush, every man held up his hands and thanked almighty God, that they had so well escaped that great misfortune. Then Rush desired the Priour licence to depart thence, and promised that he would neuer more come there, nor doe any man more hurt: upon that condition the Priour gaue him leaue to depart. Thus Rush departed from the place, and the Friers went to their Cloyster,

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ter, and liued there solitarie and chaste euer after, and serued almighty God better than euer they did befoze.

The Lamentation that Rush made when hee was departed out of the house of Religion.

When Rush was banished out of the house of Religion, and was turned into the same likenesse that he was, then he wandred abroad in the worlde with an heauie heart, & these words he said: Alas, alas, what shall I doe, I wote not now whether to goe, for all my seuen yeres labour is lost. And as he wandred about, by fortune he met with his master Lucifer, but he would not haue seene him by his will: neuertheles his master espied him quickly, and said to him Rush what tydings with thee? Sir said Rush, I haue lost all my labour that I haue gone about this vii. yeres. How so, saide his Maister? Sir, I shall shew you said Rush. The last time that we were assembled together, there was a poore man lay in an old tree hard beside vs, & he heard all that we said: and when we were departed, he arose and went vnto the Priour and shewed him all that we saide and specially the wordes that I had spoken, and so all my labour is lost, & am banished that place. Well, said the master Diuell to Rush, thou shalt goe some other way abroad, and loke if thou canst finde any thing to doe: Then Rush walked about in the country, & long it was ere he could get any seruice: At last he fortunied to come vnto a husbandmans house which lacked a seruant, where he was entertained, but soze against the wifes consent. For this husbandmans wife was a very faire woman, and she loued well the parish Priest, and he loued her againe, in so much that often times they made good chere and banquetted together, and so continued and kept company together a long time. Their meeting was so priue and so secrete, that it was neuer known, and they sure enough of the good man, for he was accustomed euerie morning

of Frier Rush.

morning to rise early and to goe farre into the field, and because his wife would prevent his coming home to dinner, she would alwaies give him his victuals in a bagg with him, and a bottell full of drinke, to the intent he should tarry in the fieldes from morning to night: she would not suffer him to keepe a servant or to have any manner of helpe: for she was afraid that if they should have a servant, her secretes should be known, and the goodman also feared that if he should take a servant, that he would have but little lust to tarry there: for the Deuill himselfe could not endure the chiding and brawling of that woman: by which meanes she kept her husband without a servant a long time: for she knew well, that as long as her husband was in the field, the Priest and she might haue their meeting, but at length she was deceived.

How Rush came to a Husbandman (labouring in the Field) and desired to bee entertained into his seruice.

Rush traouailing by and down, came to a Husbandman who was labouring in the field, being all alone, and spake these



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woordes vnto him: Wilt you merie Sir, me thinks you take great paines to worke so soze your selfe: will it please you to entertaine a seruant: I am a poore yong man & am out of seruice, and I am very willing to serue you if you please: and I trust to doe you such seruice, as shall be to your good content; The husbandman answered him, and saide; yong man, I would gladly giue you entertainment, but my wife will neuer be pleased with any seruant that shall come into my house: Sir said Rush let me alone, for I shall so worke the matter, that my dame shall be well pleased with me: well said the husbandman, tarry with me till I haue done my busines, and thou shalt goe home with me: when he had finished his dayes worke, Rush went home with him, they were no soner come into the house, but the wife espying Rush, she began to glome and to looke mercurious angerly at him: which the good man perceiuing, he saide vnto her, dame, I pray thee to be contented, thou knowest well enough that I haue more labour to doe, then I am able to make an end of alone, and therefore I haue hyed this yong man to help me: when his wife heard those wordes, she was more angry then before, and began to bzaule and scolds as if the Deuill had bene in her, and said vnto him: what a vengeance needest thou to take a seruant: thou art able inough thy selfe to doe all the busines that we haue to doe, and why should we take more charge vpon vs then we are able to beare: but I now perceine thou art giuen to laziness, and hast little minde to worke thy selfe: when the good man heard her so highly displeased, he said, dame, I pray thee be contented, the yong man is honest, and he hath promised me to be a good seruant: yet for all these speeches, she would not be pacified, but bzauled still: when Rush perceined her great impaciencie, he said vnto her: dame I pray you be contented, and be not angry with me, for you shall haue no cause, my Master hath hyed me but for a while, vpon a tryall, and I trust, in that time, so to behaue my selfe, as to giue you both content: and when my time commeth out, if you like my

Seruice

of Frier Rush.

Service you shall haue it before any other whatsoever: if not, I will be very well content to depart. When the wife heard Rush speake so reasonably, she pacified her selfe, and said no more: which caused the good man to be very glad, and so she set them to supper, and as they sate at meate, Rush demanded of his Master what he should doe the next day: his Master answered, thou must rise early and goe to the field, and make an end of that which I was about this day: (which was a great dayes worke) so when they had supt they went to bed. Early in the morning Rush arose and went to the field, and wrought so lustily, that he had done his worke betimes: for when his Master came to bring him his Breakfast, all his worke was finished, whereat his Master had great maruaille: then they sate downe to breakfast, which being ended they went home, and did such thinges as were there to be done: when his Dame sawe that he had so sone ended his business, she thought that he was a profitable seruant, and said little but let him alone. In the Euening Rush demanded of his Master what he should doe the next morrow: his Master appointed him twice so much as he did the day before, which Rush refused not, but got vpearly in the morning, and went to the field, and about his worke; so sone as his Master was ready, he toke his mans breakfast and came to the field, thinking to helpe Rush: (but he was no soner come from his house, but the Priest came to see his wife, and presently she made ready some good meate for them to be merry withall, and while it was a dwelling, they sate sporting together, who had bene there should haue some many louing touches.) And when the goodman came to the field, he found that Rush had done all that which he appointed, wherof he had great maruaille: then they sate downe to breakfast, and as they sate together, Rush beheld his Masters shooes, and perceiued that for fault of greasing they were very hard: Then said Rush to his Master, why are not your shooes better greased, I maruaille that you can goe in them, they be so hard: Haue
you

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you no moze at home: Yes, said his Master, I haue another payze lying vnder a great Chest at home in my chamber: Then said Rush, I will goe home and grease them that you may put them on to morrow: and so he walked homeward merrily and sung by the way. And when he approached neare the house, he sang out very loude: with that his Dame looked out at the window, and perceiued that it was her seruant, Shee said vnto the Priest: alas, what shall we doe: our seruant is come home, and my Husband will not be long after, and with that he thrust the meate into the Oven, and all that was vpon the Table. Where shall I hyde me said the Priest: Goe into the chamber and craepe vnder the great Chest among the olde shooe, and I shall couer you, and so he did: And when Rush was come into the house, his Dame



asked

of Frier Rush.

asked him, why he came home so soone : Rush answered and said : I haue done all my busines, and my Master commaunded me to come home and grease his Schoone. Then he went into the Chamber and looked vnder the Chest, and there hee found the Priest, and he tooke him by the heeles and drew him out, and said, thou whoreson Priest, what dost thou here : With that, the Priest held by his hands and cryed him mercy, and desired him to saue his honesty, and hee would neuer more come there : And so Rush let him goe for that once.

How *Rush* came home to make cleane the Stable, and how hee found the Priest vnder the Maunger couered with Straw.

Within a while after this foresaid Priest began to wax warme, and thought once againe to aduenture himselfe and goe to the Husbandmans house : When he perceiued that the Goodman and Rush his Seruant was in the field a labouring, hee went with all speed to the house, and when hee was entered, the Wife said he was welcome, and made ready a good dish of meate and set it on the Table befoze the Priest, then shee drew drinke and sate downe beside him : who had bene there should haue seene many wanton toys between them two, and they had not sitten there long, but anon Rush came singing homeward, and when she espied him, she was abashed and wist not what to doe but thrust the meate into the Duen as she did befoze. Then said the Priest where shall I hyde me : come with me, said the wife into the Stable, and creepe vnder the Maunger, and I shall couer you with straw, and tary there till he be gone againe, and then she turned againe into the house where she found Rush her Seruant, and anon she demaunded of him why hee came home so soone : Rush answered, that he had done all his busines, and he was come to make cleane the Stable, and when the Wife heard that, she was sorry in her heart, for she doubted that he would

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Ande the Priest againe. Then sozth went Rush into the stable and tooke a great Fozke in his hand and began to shake vp the Straw: and when he came to the heape that the Priest lay in, the which seemed to him very great, yet neuertheles



with his fozke he took: all vp at once and bare it out of the doore, and laide it on a great heape of mucke that lay there, and with his fozke he thaked the straw abroad, and when hee had shaken out a little, anon he was aware of the Priest's Cowne: then hee said, what a Deuill art thou: and with his fozke he turned the heape, and then hee perceined that the Priest was come againe: then with his fozke he gaue him three or foure good by stripes and said, whoreson Priest, what dost thou here: thou promised me the last day neuer more to come here, and now I see thou art a false Priest, but now I shall make an end of thee, and then shalt thou neuer deceiue me more. And when the Priest heard him say so, he fell vpon his knees

of Frier Rush.

knée and held by his hands, and prayed Rush to saue his honoꝝ once againe and he would neuer come there moze, and if he did then to doe with him what he would.

Thus Rush let the Priest goe the second time.

How Rush came home and found the Priest in the Cheesebasket, and how hee trayled him about the Towne.

Then within a fortnight or thre weekes after, the Priest thought he was long absent from the Husbandmans wife. And though it should cost him his life, yet would he goe thither once againe: And on a day he perceiuing the goodman was gone to the field, he tooke his way vnto the house, and was so basky, that as soone as he was entred into the house, he caught the wife and would haue embraced her, but she quickly got from him againe, and went and prepared good cheere for him, as she was wont to doe: for they thought themselves sure enough for the time, but yet they were deceiued: For when the goodman was come to the field, Rush had done all his busines, then they sate downe and brake their fast with Bread and Cheese: and as they sate eating, Rush spied a hayze in the Chase, and then he said to his Paster, I trow my Dame would payson vs, or else she washeth not the Basket that the Cheeselyeth in, behold it is all full of haire, I will goe home and wash the basket and make it cleane: so leauing his Paster in the field and walking homeward, he sung merrily all the way. And when he approached neare the house, the Wife knew his boyce and perceiued that he was comming. Then wringing her hands she said vnto the Priest, goe hyde you, or else you be but dead. Where shall I hyde me said the Priest: Goe by into the chamber and leape into the Basket that hangeth out at the window, and I shall call you when he is gone againe. Then anon in came Rush, and she asked him why he came home so soone: then said Rush, I haue done all my busines in the field, and my Paster hath sent me home to wash your

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your Chese basket, for it is full of haire, and so he went into the Chamber, and with his knife he cut the rope that the basket hung by, and downe fell Priest and all into a great poole of water that was vnder the window: then went he into the stable for a Horse and rode into the poole, and toke the rope that hung at the basket, & tying it to the horses tayle, rode through the poole three or 4. times. Then he rode through the Towne to cause the people to wonder at him, and so came home againe. And all this while he made as though he had knowne nothing, but looking behinde him, espyed the Priest. Then he alighted downe, and said vnto him: Thou shalt neuer more escape me, thy life is lost. With that, the Priest held by his hands and said, here is a hundred peces of Gold, take them and let me goe. So Rush tooke the golde and let the Priest goe. And when his Master came home, he gaue him the halfe of his money, and bad him farewell, for he would goe for the world.

How

of Frier Rush.

How *Rush* became Seruant to a Gentleman, and how the
Deuill was Coniured out of the body of the
Gentlemans Daughter.

Vhen Rush was departed from the Husbandman, he went abroad in the Countrey, to looke if he could find any moze aduentures: and so long he trauailed about, that at last he espied a great Gentlemans place, vnto the which he tooke his way. And when he was come thither, as chance was, he found the gentleman walking by and down befoze his gate. And when Rush was approached neare vnto him, he put off his bonet and saluted him saying: Kest you merry god gentleman: Welcome said he: Sir, said Rush, I am a poore young man and am out of seruice, and faine would I haue a good Master. What Countryman art thou said the gentleman: & from whence comest thou: Sir, said Rush, I was borne farre hence and many a myle haue I gone to sake a good seruice, but none can I find. What canst thou doe said the gentleman, and what is thy name: Sir said Rush, I can doe any manner of thing that shall please you to set me vnto, & Rush is my name. Then said the gentleman vnto him: Rush tarry here with me, and I will retaine thee into my seruice. When Rush heard the gentleman speake so, he thanked him much and tarried there. When as the Gentleman and Rush went talking together, the gentleman said vnto him: Rush thou hast trauailed farre and gone through many strange Countries: canst thou shew me where to finde any man, can Coniure a spirit out of a womans body: Sir, said Rush, why aske you me that question: I shall shew thee, said the gentleman, I haue a Daughter which is a faire young woman, but she is soze troubled in her minde, and as I suppose she hath some Diuell within her body. Sir, said Rush, I pray you let me see her, and I trust speedily to finde remedy for her. Then the gentleman brought Rush into the place and shewed him his Daughter. And when he saw her he knew what she had within her body: Anon he said vnto the gentleman, Sir there is remedy enough for this. Well said the gentleman.

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tleman, if thou canst finde me any that can helpe her thereof, I will reward him well for his labour, and the also. Sir, I will shew you what is to be done, there is a place of Religion a forty or fifty miles hence, wherein I was a servant a long time, and the Pziour is a cunning man in that science: and I doubt not, but if he were here even now he should be holpen within this houre. When the gentleman heard the words of Rush, he reioyced in his heart and was full glad of that good tydings. And on the morrow after, the gentleman sent his servant with his letters vnto that house of Religion, desiring the Pziour to come and speake with him. When the Pziour had read the gentlemans letters, and knew for what cause he was sent for, he made him ready to ride with the messenger. Then forth they rode, and the next day they arrived at the Gentlemans place. When the gentleman understood that the Pziour was come, he was glad and went to the gate, and with great reuerence he receiued the Pziour, and bzought him into his place. Then the gentleman commanded his servant to fill a cup of Wine, that the Pziour and he might drinke together. And when they had drunke and refreshed themselves well, they walked forth into a faire Garden, and then they communed together of many things, and when they had finished all their communications, the Gentleman said vnto the Pziour: Sir, the cause that you be come hither is this. It is so, that I haue a young Gentlewoman to my daughter which is grievously berd and troubled in her minde, and as I suppose she hath some wicked Spirit in her body, and sir, it was shewed me by a servant of mine which was long servant in your place, that you could helpe her. Sir said the Pziour what is his name? The gentleman said his name is Rush. And when the Pziour heard his name he knew him well enough, and said vnto the gentleman, sir, cause the gentlewoman to come befoze me and I trust in almighty God, shortly to finde a remedy for her, and when the gentleman heard the Pziour speake so, he was glad in his heart, and commanded in all hast to bring forth his Daughter befoze the Pziour:

of Frier Rush.

Priour: and when she was come into his presence, he commanded her to kneele downe vpon her knees, and also he commanded her Father and her Mother, and all the company that were there present, in likewise to kneele vpon their knees, and pray vnto almighty God for the young Gentlewoman. And then he himselfe said certaine prayers ouer her: then he lifted vp his hand and blessed her. and incontinent there flew a great Deuill out of her mouth. And the Priour bound the Deuill so,



that neuer after he came there. Thus was the young gentlewoman restored to her right minde and health againe. Then the Gentleman would haue giuen to the Priour a great summe of money for his labour, but he would take none, but said vnto the gentleman: Sir, I haue a new Church in building, and I lacke Lead to couer the rooffe: and as it is informed me, this is a plentifull Countrey thereof. Therefore sir, if it will please you to giue me asmuch as shall serue me: I and my Bretheren shall be your dayly breadsmen, and you shall be prayed for as long as the world endureth.

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Ye shall haue as much as shall serue you, said the gentleman :
But how will you doe for the carriage : Well enough said the
Priour. Then the gentleman brought him to a great heape of
Lead, and bad him take as much as would serue him. Present-
ly the Priour called forth Rush and commanded him to take
on his necke so much Lead as would couer his Church, and
beare it home, and come againe quickly. So Rush took the
lead on his necke at once and carryed it home, and he was there
again within halfe an houre. Then the Priour took his
leau of the Gentleman and departed, commanding Rush to
bring him home also. Then Rush took him on his necke, and
within one quarter of an houre he was at home. Then the
Priour coniured Rush againe into his owne skenette, and com-
maunded him to goe into an olde Castle that stood farre
within the Forrest, and neuer more to come out, but
to remaine there for euer. From which De-
uill and all other Devils, defend
vs good Lord.

Amen.

FINIS.



